

A<sup>2</sup> 5. (Amended) The cascable optical amplifier arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the high-power amplifier stage has an amplification control and/or power control.

7. (Amended) The cascable optical amplifier arrangement as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the at least one pump signal sources for pumping the active fibers of the high-power amplifier stages are connected to the input and to the output of the respective active fibers.

A<sup>3</sup> 8. (Amended) The cascable optical amplifier arrangement as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein a filter serially connected upstream of the active fibers of the high-power amplifier stages levels the gain spectrum of an optical signal to be amplified.

9. (Amended) The cascable optical amplifier arrangement as claimed in any one of claims 1, 5 and 6, wherein a filter serially connected upstream of the active fiber of the high-power amplifier stage levels the gain spectrum of an optical signal to be amplified.